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Northern Region News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

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November 1995

After the Fires...

Mushroom Pickers Come to Kootenai

by Jean M. Spooner,
Kootenai National Forest,
Libby, Montana

You might say it all started that day in April, 1995, when a mushroom picker made headlines in the Libby paper by waving a gun and chasing after a fellow picker down the town's main street. Or maybe it started later in June, when a picker was lost for three days and heavy rains and snow fell and there was a fruitless search by the local search and rescue organization. After three days, the picker walked out on his own.

But the story of the morels really began much earlier. It began with the wildfires of 1994 on the Kootenai NF. They burned into the late summer and fall. Kootenai NF personnel breathed a sigh of relief when the last of the 53,000 acres that burned was declared out.

But the relief didn't last long because those 53,000 burned acres equated to a huge crop of morel mushrooms in the spring of 1995. Morel mushrooms that sprout after fires are a prized delicacy in the U.S. and around the world.

Recognizing the potential bonanza crop, Kootenai NF officials wanted to provide opportunities for personal use and commer-

cial harvesting while minimizing the social and resource impacts in the area. In December of 1994, the Forest created a task force to plan for the expected harvesting in the spring.

The task force designed a mushroom harvesting plan that required commercial harvesters to buy permits: \$20 for 7 days; \$30 for 10 days; \$75 for 30 days; and \$100 for a full-season permit. Personal use permits were free. The personal use permit allowed the taking of five gallons per person, per day.

To minimize personal use-commercial competition, separate areas were established for the two uses. Each mushroom picker was provided a free map showing the area burned in 1994.

Sanitation facilities, emergency response access, law enforcement and other factors were considered in planning camp sites for the commercial harvesters. A \$20 fee was charged for season-long use of the established camps.

In May the process became a bit complex when Lowell Paulson, Libby, filed a "Complaint for Declaratory Judgement and Injunctive Relief" in Federal court. The motion was designed to stop commercial mushroom harvesting in the Kootenai NF until the Forest completed an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

U.S. District Federal Judge Charles C. Lovell, Missoula, denied the injunction May 25, ruling that the proposed 1995 mushroom picking was a minor, short-term special use of the National Forest lands and that the Kootenai National Forest had fulfilled their obligation through analysis and documentation included in the Decision Memorandum signed by Forest Supervisor Robert L. Schrenk.



Mushroom pickers on the Kootenai National Forest.



A large influx of commercial pickers was expected. But the expected influx did not materialize because of a large morel crop near Wenatchee, Washington, unseasonably wet weather locally, coupled with a depressed market price for morel mushrooms.

By the second week of July, the mushroom picking season was drawing to a close on the Kootenai NF. The Forest sold only 934 commercial permits, two buyer's permits and 40 commercial camping permits.

With the passing of the mushroom picking season, the Kootenai NF returned to the routine activities of the summer.

Canadian Fire Fighting

Nine Hot Shot Crews Work With Canadians In Northern Alberta

by Richard H. Smith,
Planning & Fires Staff Officer,
Lewis & Clark NF,
Great Falls, Montana

"Fighting fire in Canada was almost like stepping back in time 10 to 15 years" said Terry Brown, Inter-agency Resource Representative for R-6.

"When any agency gets into a situation where resources are committed 110% and your backs are to the wall, any help is greatly appreciated. When the help that arrives is in the form of nine, well-disciplined, fully-trained, and experienced crews, the help is a God send," said Rick Arthur, Canadian Forest Officer, Waterways Ranger District.

In early June, nine U.S. Hot Shot (Type 1) crews were dispatched to the Marianna Lake Fire in Northern Alberta, Canada. The Bitterroot, Flathead, Lolo, and St. Joe Hot Shot crews from Region 1 were joined by the Boise (R-4), Redmond, Warm Springs, Wolf Creek, and Zig Zag (R-6) Hot Shot crews. The crews flew to Edmonton, Alberta, and then on to Fort McMurray, 400 kilometers northeast (that's about 250 miles for those of you who don't speak Canadian).

Fort McMurray is a modern, bustling city of 35,000. Most people are connected to the two huge oil plants, Suncor and Syncrude, about 60 kilometers to the north. Suncor was the first oil tar sands processing plant in the world. They have more oil reserves than Saudi Arabia.

The fire had been burning for two weeks in black spruce and muskeg. It was nearly 100 hectares (250,000 acres). Its 20-mile front closed the highway south to Edmonton for several days. Flames were 3 to 4 times higher than the squat, 10-to-50-foot black spruce. Winds blew like you were in Great Falls; the fire was off and running by 10 a.m. There was 20 hours of daylight.

Canada still uses the large fire organization: fire boss, line boss, division boss, etc. About 600 people and 17 helicopters were assigned to the fire, and there were about



Personnel were forced to evacuate the crew quarters in the face of the fire and exploding helicopter fuel, leaving nothing but this 150-foot lookout tower.

Photo by Rick Arthur,
Canadian Forest Ranger

60 people at the main camp. Half of them were with the helicopters.

Line crews consist of 25 people, a crew boss, 3 squad bosses, 18 fire fighters, a cook, a cook's assistant, and a time keeper. Of all the people, the cook was the most important. Crews camped near the line, in the black. They moved every 3 to 4 days. Shifts were about 16 hours a day.

Our Hot Shot crews fit right in. They were assigned two divisions of the fire; local crews had the other three divisions. A cook and helper were assigned to each of the U.S. crews. They burned out, built hot line, mopped up, and learned not to walk in a straight line in the muskeg. If you did, you might get wetter than you were.

Food was good and plentiful. We had the unique experience of trying SPORK, a cousin to spam, which makes baloney look delicious. Fried baloney is called "Forest Ranger Steak."

With the help of a little rain (75 millimeters: about 3 inches), the fire was corralled at 133,000 hectares (330,000 acres). The Hot Shot crews were great ambassadors for the U.S. Wildlands Fire Program. Rick Arthur wrote his American friends: "All comments, from our staff who worked directly with the crews, were exceptionally positive. Your efforts, experience, and enthusiasm were demonstrated through the results that were achieved."

Campground Vandalism

Racetrack Campground Suffers \$8,500 Damage

by Jack de Golia, Public Affairs Officer,
Beaverhead/Deerlodge NFs, Dillon, Montana

Racetrack Campground, 20 miles southwest of Deer Lodge, Montana, has been closed after vandals did more than \$8,500 in damage June 8 to both of the campground's new outhouses.

Deer Lodge District Ranger Bob Gilman, Deerlodge NF, reports vandals broke windows, shot up the buildings,

damaged doors and tore out toilet seats. He said the campground will remain closed until the damage can be repaired.

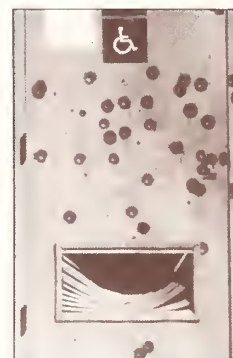
The vandals destroyed the bulletin board and every sign in the campground. "Our funds for making the repairs are gone for the year," Gilman explained.

The campground was redesigned two years ago to provide disabled access, at a cost of \$150,000. The concrete outhouses, accessible for wheelchairs, cost \$10,000 each. "This campground is handy to the Deer Lodge valley and now it's unusable. This is such a waste."

Later in June, four young males, including a juvenile, were identified as major suspects in the vandalism. Officials are withholding the suspects' names until Federal charges are formally filed.

The breakthrough in the case came as the result of a cooperative investigation by the Powell County Sheriff's Department, the Anaconda-Deer Lodge Sheriff's department and the Forest Service.

Joe Sologub, Deerlodge NF criminal investigator in Butte, praised the two counties' departments. "I can't say enough about how well we worked together on this investigation. Both counties were super. We really appreciate their cooperation."



Destroyed vent and bullet marks in the door of the campground toilet.



Bullet marks and destroyed vent
Photos by Errol W. Hammond

I swear, someday I'm gonna write a book on it. But I might have to make up an ending...I may be long gone before the real story is finished.

Let's see. I'll start out, "Once upon a time, a long time ago (1983, to be exact), an oil company named Fina filed an application for a permit to drill (APD) an exploratory well in an area of the Lewis & Clark National Forest known as the Badger-Two Medicine. In addition to having high potential for the occurrence of oil and gas resources and being mighty pretty, this 130,000-acre area borders Glacier National Park, and is home to several grizzly bear.

In addition, the Blackfeet Indians retain certain treaty rights and cultural ties to the area, which was ceded to the U.S. government in an 1896 treaty agreement.

The chronology of events that followed the Forest's receipt of the 1983 APD would take several pages, but I'll try to condense it.

The Forest, with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as a cooperating agency, completed an environmental assessment in 1985 for the proposal and forwarded to the BLM a recommendation to approve the permit, with numerous operating conditions. The BLM approved the permit and it was promptly appealed. The decision to approve the permit was remanded by the Interior Board of Land Appeals to the agencies for additional analysis. The agencies resolved the appeal points and again the permit was approved. And, again, it was appealed.

Meanwhile, in November 1985, Chevron U.S.A. also filed an APD for an exploratory well in the Badger-Two Medicine area. The BLM and the Forest Service determined that an environmental impact statement (EIS) was necessary to evaluate both proposals. The analysis evaluated effects of both drilling proposals as well as possible impacts from production scenarios at each site.

A joint Forest Service/BLM decision approving Fina's proposal was issued in early 1991 and was promptly appealed to both the Forest Service and BLM. The Regional Forester upheld the Forest Supervisor's decision to approve the surface use plan of operation for the proposal. On the basis of protests stating that regulations required the BLM to perform an independent environmental review, a separate review was conducted by the BLM. Following the review,

a decision to approve the APD was signed by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior. A lawsuit was promptly filed by the National Wildlife Federation and others.

Meanwhile, Federal legislation was introduced in April, 1993, which would mandate a review of the Badger-Two Medicine in accordance with the Wilderness Act and other special provisions, and place a moratorium on drilling activity until the review was completed. In order to allow consideration of the bill, the newly installed Secretary of Interior suspended for one year the Dept. of Interior's decision to approve the permit. Based on the suspension order, the U.S. District Court also stayed proceedings in the lawsuit.

This scenario of suspension of the APD and staying of the lawsuit has continued on a year-by-year basis for the past three years. The most recent stay of legal proceedings, issued in late June of 1995, stays proceedings until June 30, 1996.

As for Chevron's application, the Forest is evaluating information regarding traditional cultural uses of the Badger-Two Medicine as part of National Historic Preservation Act procedures, and has not yet made a determination on that proposal.

Currently, the Lewis and Clark NF is conducting an environmental analysis to determine which lands on the Forest should be made available for oil and gas leasing, and under what conditions. The analysis area covers the entire Forest, including the Badger-Two Medicine, where determinations would be made as to whether or not, or how, lands would be leased in that area once existing leases expired. Because existing leases have been suspended while environmental reviews and appeals have been ongoing, many of the leases in the Badger-Two Medicine have 5 or more years remaining on their 10-year term.

To Drill Or Not To Drill

After Twelve Years,



*Scene in Badger-Two
Medicine, Lewis & Clark
National Forest.
Photo by Robin D. Strathy.*

Badger- Two Medicine Controversy Continues

*by Robin D. Strathy, geologist,
Lewis & Clark National Forest,
Great Falls, Montana.*

Universal Access

Cooperative Efforts On Helena RD's Trout Creek Canyon Trail

by Dave Payne,
Recreation Forester,
Helena RD,
Helena National
Forest



Cooperative efforts involving local businesses, organizations, and individuals are developing important, new recreational opportunities on the Helena RD. Approximately three-quarters of a mile of the existing Trout Creek Canyon Trail is being reconstructed to provide trail opportunities for individuals with limited mobility.

The Trout Creek Canyon Trail has an interesting history. The three-mile trail, approximately 27 miles northeast of Helena, Montana, was once a segment of a popular scenic drive known as the Figure Eight Loop. The road segment in the steep and narrow Trout Creek Canyon was washed away in 1981 by a powerful flood. Since then, the route through the canyon has been maintained as a trail.

Following the flood, many local residents suggested the Forest Service reconstruct the road through the canyon. An Environmental Assessment (AS) was initiated in 1990 to determine the feasibility and effects of reestablishing the scenic loop drive. Not surprisingly, this proved to be an emotional is-

Members of Volunteer Crew: Montana Operating Engineers and Associated General Contractors Training Trust volunteers came from throughout Montana. Pictured above (from the left) are Aaron Guyman (instructor), Mike Campbell, Jerry Snyder, Jeret Lind, Mona Townsend, Lee Clark, Mike Curran, Janice Tomcho, Conrad Stewart, Lucinda Evans, Doris Romanisko (administrator). Volunteers not pictured: Jason Sims, Sandi Cuerrero, Randy Thiede (all instructors), Kristi Getschman, Dana Wilson, Pat Gentry, Paula Bundrock, Carl Reum, Brian Jones.

sue. Public opinion was divided between those who wanted a road and those who preferred a trail. During the scoping, many endorsed the potential for developing a Trout Creek Canyon Trail for individuals with physical disabilities.

Based on the EA, the Helena RD decided to manage the access route through the canyon for nonmotorized use. In addition, the southern segment of the

trail would be reconstructed to meet universal access design standards. The trail project was submitted for Capital Investment Program (CIP) funding with the hope that work could begin in 1996. Because recreation CIP funding projections were uncertain for the future, the Helena District decided to pursue other approaches to accomplishing the project.

Several individuals in the Helena area championed the project and began enlisting community support. It wasn't long before equipment, labor, and supplies were offered for the trail project. Primary voluntary assistance came from the Training Trust of the Montana Operating Engineers and Associated General Contractors. In a two-month period last spring, the Training Trust constructed a new parking lot and completed most of the required trail widening and grading in the narrow canyon. To date, contributions by the Training Trust are valued at more than \$40,000.

The Helena RD plans to develop other partnerships to surface the trail. With continuing community support, this recreation project will soon be completed. The Trout Creek Canyon Trail will provide spectacular viewing opportunities for many individuals with physical limitations. In these days of reduced recreation budgets, we're especially appreciative of the voluntary assistance developed through community partnerships.



Parking Area constructed for the Trout Creek Canyon Trail by Training Trust volunteers.
Photos by Dave Payne.



above: Coy G. Jemmett
right: Michael R. King

Supervisors Switch



Mike King to Prescott NF; Coy Jemmett to Nez Perce NF

Michael R. King, supervisor of the Nez Perce NF, Grangeville, Idaho, and Coy G. Jemmett, supervisor of the Prescott NF, Prescott, Arizona, will exchange assignments in November. King, supervisor of the Nez Perce NF since 1991, will report to Prescott, Arizona to become the supervisor of the Prescott NF and Jemmett will report to Grangeville to become supervisor of the Nez Perce NF.

Jemmett has been supervisor of the Prescott NF since 1987. A native of Idaho, Jemmett had been supervisor of the Prescott NF since 1987. He is a veteran of 25 years with the Forest Service. Jemmett holds a degree in forest management from Michigan Technology University (1970) and a graduate degree in public administration from Lewis & Clark College, Portland, Oregon.

Employee Numbers Down 611 (17%) in Northern Region, 1992-1995

Downsizing, reinvention, buyouts and other factors have contributed to reducing the number of permanent employees in the Northern Region between October 1992 and June 1995.

The employee population was 3,502 in 1992 and was down to 2,891 by June of this year.

The decline included 298 employees who took buyouts. Buyouts represented 4.8% of the overall 17% decline between 1992 and 1995. One-fourth of the reduction (154 employees) is due to the law enforcement and Job Corps being shifted to separate organizations that are no longer counted in R1.

The 611 reductions were led by 115 forestry positions (series 460), followed by 65 forestry technician positions (462). Engineering technician positions (802) were reduced by 60.

In this three-year time span, there was also an increase of 12 in general biological positions (series 401), and an increase of 9 in fishery biology positions (482).

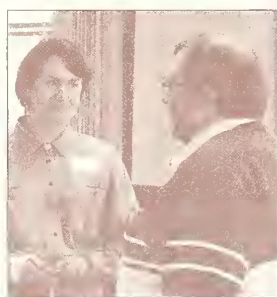
Lyons Visits

Undersecretary Comes To Dillon, Montana



Above: Undersecretary of Agriculture James R. Lyons had breakfast at Western Montana College with community leaders during his Aug. 22-23 visit to Dillon. Beaverhead/Deerlodge NF supervisor Debbie Austin is seated to Lyons' right.

Right: The Press meets with Undersecretary Lyons and Beaverhead/Deerlodge NFs Supervisor Debbie Austin at the USDA Service Center in Dillon. Larry Chaffin, owner of radio station KDBM, Dillon, is seated on the left.



Above: Beaverhead/Deerlodge NFs supervisor Debbie Austin visits with Beaverhead county commission chair Spence Hegstead during Lyons' visit to Dillon.



Photos by Jack deGolia.

No. 1 in the Nation

Anaconda Job Corps Center Tops in Graduate Placement

The Anaconda Job Corps Center (JCC) has been rated by the U.S. Department of Labor as tops in the nation in job placement.

There are 111 Job Corps Centers in the nation. Anaconda was ranked fourth among all Job Corps Centers in reading gains, math gains, General Education Diplomas (GED) earned and education training completion rate.

Anaconda JCC, with a capacity of 224 students, has 56 females and 160 males between the ages of 16 and 24, reports William J. Case, center director. The center serves about 500 students a year.

"Of the 128 graduates last year, 123 were placed on jobs for a placement rate of 96.1%," Case said.

"Of the students who did not complete the entire education-training program, 23 of the 27 got jobs for a 92% placement rate. Of the 330 students who exited the program, 279 (84.5%) were employed in all categories. The average starting wage for Anaconda JCC's graduates was \$7.78 an hour."

In addition to the basic education programs, the Anaconda JCC provides training in heavy equipment operation, heavy equipment mechanics, welding, painting, carpentry, bricklaying, culinary arts, office occupations and warehousing.

Anaconda JCC is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools & Colleges. Students can earn a GED and high school diploma.



interested in activities on the Beaverhead and Deerlodge National Forests are invited to get on the mailing list for the two Forests. Call 406/683 3984 or drop us a postcard to let us know your name and address. We'll send you a short form to fill out that will let us know the subjects and districts on the two forests that interest you.

Mail your card to:
Public Affairs Office,
USDA Forest Service,
420 Barrett Street,
Dillon, MT 59725.

Rare Find On Fortine



Lathyrus bijugatus (pinewoods peavine)
found on Fortine RD, Kootenai NF.

Photo by Dellora Gauger.

What is pinkish-purple, tiny and found in only two other locations in Montana? It's a sensitive plant so rare in Montana that we didn't even know it existed on Na-

tional Forest land. Toby Spribille, a botanist for the Fortine RD, Kootenai NF, found the plant growing abundantly in a proposed ecosystem management project area.

The plant, *Lathyrus bijugatus* (known to us non-botanical types as pinewoods peavine) was previously located between a site recorded in 1920 near Elko, British Columbia, Canada, and a site discovered more than 90 years ago in the Flathead Valley.

A third site was discovered in 1976 in Glacier National Park. All of these sites are in open/parklike areas, with ponderosa pine and larch and are at elevations near 3,500 feet.

Botanist Toby Spribille Finds Pinewoods Peavine On Fortine RD, Kootenai NF

by Dellora Gauger, Public Information Assistant,
Fortine (Montana) RD, Kootenai National Forest

Only about 95 sites have been recorded in the world and many of these may have been lost to development.

Since this plant had not been found on National Forest land before, it was not included on the Northern Region's Sensitive Species list. The district has consulted with the Montana Natural Heritage Program for suggestions for management guidelines and is looking at various options on how to maintain this population and create opportunities for expansion of its' habitat.

Toby, the keen-eyed botanist, received recognition at a recent district meeting and received a Fortine District T-shirt. Since discovering the pinewoods peavine, Spribille has located approximately 30 other sensitive plants on the district.

Gallatin NF Land Exchange Team Receives Chief's Annual Award

by Gary E. Johnson,
Regional Rights-of-Way Specialist,
RO Lands & Minerals, Missoula, Montana



Chief's National Land Exchange Team Award was presented in September to (left to right) Dave Garber, Supervisor of the Gallatin NF (individual award); John Drake (accepted Chief's Team Award); R-1 Director of Lands & Minerals; Mark Lodine (individual award), Assistant Regional Attorney, USDA Office of General Counsel; and Bob Dennee (individual award), Gallatin NF Lands Staff Officer.

Photo by Beth Horn

The Chief's 6th annual National Land Exchange Team Award, for the outstanding land exchange facilitation team, was presented in September to the Gallatin NF land exchange team for accomplishments in fiscal year 1994.

The Servicewide award is made annually to those individuals who have worked effectively, efficiently and with innovative approaches as a land exchange team.

This award was given in recognition of the individual and team efforts that resulted

in the completion of the Gallatin I Land Exchange. The exchange was unique in its complexity and scope. It involved broad legislation and the exchange of approximately 16,000+ acres of Federal lands and 37,000+ acres of Big Sky Lumber Co. lands.

R-1 Deputy Regional Forester Dick Bacon presented the award on the Chief's behalf. The award, recognizing the completed land exchange, was the direct result of the abilities, motivation, dedication and commitment of many individuals.

R-1 Teams Tops

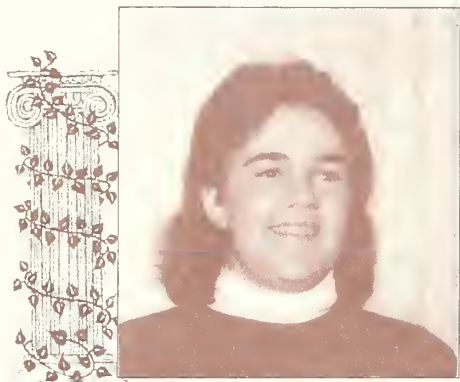
The award was presented at the Northern Region Board of Directors' meeting in person to Dave Garber, Supervisor of the Gallatin NF; John Drake, RO Director of Lands & Minerals; Mark D. Lodine, assistant regional attorney, USDA Office of the General Counsel; Bob Dennee, Gallatin NF lands staff officer.

Others receiving individual awards included:

- Gordon Schofield, Lands Forester, Gallatin NF.
- Gina Gahagan, Legal Instruments Examiner, Gallatin NF.
- Chuck Wassinger, former director of R-1 Lands & Minerals.
- Jeanne Evenden, former R-1 Land Exchange Staff.
- Jim Dear, former Washington, D.C. Land Exchange Staff.
- Curt Rich, Staff Assistant for Senator Max Baucus.
- Art Noonan, Staff Assistant for Congressman Pat Williams.
- Joe Sabol, Legal Counsel representing Big Sky Lumber Co.

R-1 Grad Recognized

Trapper Creek JCC Alumna Kimberly Lewark Named To Hall of Fame



Kimberly A. Lewark

by Marlette Lacey, Administrative Officer,
Trapper Creek Civilian Conservation
Center, Bitterroot National Forest,
Darby, Montana.

Lt. Kimberly A. Lewark, a 1986 graduate of the Trapper Creek Job Corps Center, Bitterroot NF, was inducted into the Job Corps Civilian Conservation Hall of Fame in September 1995.

The Forest Service and the Department of Interior established a Civilian Conservation Center Hall of Fame in 1993 to recognize and honor one graduate each year. The selection committee this year received two outstanding nominations from the 30 centers (18 managed by the Forest Service): Fred Rowe, a 1966 graduate of the Eight-Canyon Center, Mescalero, New Mexico., and Lewark.

In her 18 months at Trapper Creek, Lewark earned both a General Educational Development (GED) certificate and a high school diploma. Her vocational training was in business education.

After completing her Job Corps training, she enrolled at the University of Montana and graduated in 1992 with a BA degree in interpersonal communications. She was a member of the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) and was commissioned an Army lieutenant. In the military, Lt. Lewark has served as executive training officer, engineer platoon leader, and operations officer. She has been rated top lieutenant in her battalion, received the Army Achievement Medal and awarded a General's Coin for outstanding performance.

Kootenai, Flathead & Lolo NFs, Plan Checkerboard Land Exchange With Plum Creek Timber Company

By Ted P. Andersen, forester (realty),
Kootenai National Forest SO, Libby, MT

Approximately 48,500 acres are proposed for exchange in the northwest corner of Montana and to the south and east of Libby, Montana. The proposed exchange between the Forest Service and Plum Creek Timber Company (PCTC) is referred to as the Checkerboard Land Exchange.

PCTC currently owns approximately 49 mostly unroaded sections of land arranged in a checkerboard pattern in the Upper Fisher River drainage and Vermilion drainage. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) proposes the Forest Service acquire most of PCTC's sections in exchange for primarily Kootenai NF lands to the northeast of the checkerboard ownership area. The Flathead and Lolo National Forests also plan to contribute acres to the proposed exchange.

The purpose/need for the proposed exchange is:

- * to provide for the recovery of grizzly bear;
- * to provide roadless recreation opportunities;
- * to provide access to PCTC inholdings.

The DEIS evaluates three alternatives in determining the best management action for achieving the purpose and need.

Alternative No. 1 is the no-action alternative. It would not grant access to PCTC inholdings nor would it exchange lands.

Alternative No. 3 would grant access to PCTC inholdings but would not exchange lands.

Alternative 4-B, the proposed exchange action, would convey 27,171 acres of National Forest System lands to PCTC and acquire 21,422 acres of PCTC lands. This proposed alternative would, also, grant PCTC access to any inholdings within the analysis area.

The concept of a large land exchange as a solution to reducing management problems between land owners has been in the for-

mulation stages for over a decade. The DEIS identified six significant issues while developing alternatives and comparing the merits of each alternative. They include heritage resources, recreational use and opportunities, socioeconomic, roadless area management, wildlife and water and fisheries.

An intensive public involvement process, which included two scoping efforts and numerous meetings over a five-year period, aided in developing an exchange which appears to have general support of most individuals involved in the planned exchange.

The exchange alternative appears to be a win/win solution to a long-standing problem. The analysis concluded the local area economy would not be significantly affected by the proposed exchange. Security for grizzly bears would be maintained and the number of roadless area acres would drop only slightly. Roadless recreation opportunities would be maintained, assuring opportunities for hunters to bag trophy big game animals.

PCTC supports the exchange proposal, since it would provide them access to acquired lands where harvesting would not be constrained by grizzly bear concerns and fragile land types susceptible to erosion and stream course damage.

PCTC continues to work with the Kootenai NF in identifying and reducing indirect effects by agreeing to mitigation measures where potential problems associated with the proposed action have been identified.

The Kootenai NF released copies of the DEIS in July. Copies are available for review in libraries and in Forest Service offices in Libby, Trout Creek, Kalispell and Missoula. The DEIS review period ended October 10. For additional information about the proposed land exchange, contact Ted Andersen in the Kootenai NF headquarters in Libby: telephone (406) 293-6211.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) will be available in early 1996 for review. The FEIS is subject to appeal for 45 days.

48,500 Acres



Lolo NF Receives "Windows on the Past" Regional Award for '95

by Kristin Whisenand,
archeologist,
Lolo National Forest,
Missoula, Montana.

The Windows on the Past award is presented each year by the Regional Forester in recognition of a regional unit's outstanding work in interpreting and/or providing public education about and access to National Forest Heritage Resources.

Michael Beckes, regional archeologist, presented the award for 1995 to Lolo NF Supervisor Chuck Wildes June 14 in a special ceremony at the Forest headquarters at Fort Missoula. Inscription on the award reads, for "Excellence in interpreting the rich and diverse Heritage Resources on the Lolo National Forest."

Beckes commended the Lolo NF for using a team approach in successfully completing the heritage projects with no one person entirely responsible for achieving the award. The "team" consisted of district rangers and resource assistants, the Forest's public affairs officer, archeologists, wildlife appreciation specialist and members of the interpretive sign committee and many other talented people.

Missoula, Ninemile and Plains/Thompson



Falls RDs completed six projects involving historic restoration, interpretation, and developing a visitors' center. Missoula RD completed the restoration and interpretation of the Hogback Homestead in Rock Creek, a project started in 1989. The homestead will become a cabin rental this year, with a sign and brochure interpreting the 10,000 years of human history in the Rock Creek drainage. Missoula RD also completed two interpretive projects along the Montana portion of the Lolo Trail.

The Lolo Trail sign at Howard Creek tells visitors the significance of this ancient travel route, long used by Native Americans and also by the Lewis & Clark expedition in 1805 and 1806.

The Fort Fizzle site contains a reconstruction of the breastworks and an interpretive exhibit explaining the 1877 event from the perspective of the participants in the con-

Heritage Resources

Regional "Windows on the Past" award presented to Lolo NF: Some of the key players in the Lolo NF's heritage resource work are pictured at the award presentation (left to right) Missoula District Ranger David Stack; Plains District Ranger Richard Smith; Lolo NF Supervisor Chuck Wildes; Forest Archaeologist C. Milo McLeod; Regional Archaeologist Michael Beckes; Ninemile District Ranger Greg Munther; Jim Flansberg, Lolo NF supervisor land surveyor; and Marjorie Lubinski, Lolo NF SO cartographer.

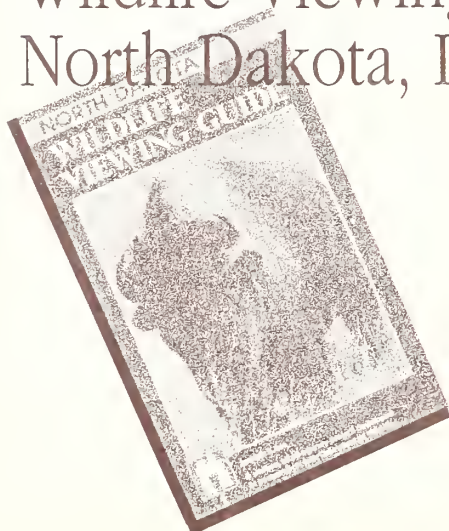
flict: the Nez Perce People, the 7th Infantry and the citizen volunteers.

Ninemile RD completed a Visitor Center. It tells the story of the Remount Depot and the history of the Forest Service in the Northern Region. The District also completed an interpretive exhibit for the Ninemile Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp. The Ninemile CCC camp was the largest in the country. It opened in 1933 and closed in 1942, spanning the entire history of the Corps. The CCC camp interpretation was dedicated in July 1994 with a ceremony that included many Corps alumni who had served there during the 1930s and early 1940s.

Plains/Thompson Falls RD, using the theme "The Land, The People and the River", completed a series of four interpretive sites along the Clark Fork River (St. Regis Cutoff, Highway No. 135) between St. Regis and Paradise, Montana. Each site includes three signs that focus on the interrelationship of the people, the river and the land.

Cooperative Publications

Wildlife Viewing Guides For North Dakota, Idaho & Montana



Deborah Richie, NatureWatch Coordinator, RO Wildlife & Fisheries, Montana Natural Heritage Program, reports the guidebooks are cooperative efforts of multiple groups and agencies, including the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, The Nature Conservancy, State fish and wildlife agencies and Defenders of Wildlife.

The guides (approximately 100 pages) are for sale at Forest Service offices, book stores

and from Falcon Press in Helena, Montana. There are twenty-one state wildlife viewing guides now, with more to come.

The newly revised 'Montana Wildlife Viewing Guide' came out in July. Completely updated, the new Montana edition features 109 of Montana's best wildlife viewing areas. Included are detailed descriptions of each site and wildlife, optimal viewing times, maps, directions, wildlife viewing tips and color photographs.

'Wildlife watching is rapidly on the rise,' Richie says. 'By providing guides on where, when and how to see wildlife, we do more than simply meet a growing demand. We are helping encourage and foster a life-long appreciation of nature and conservation.'

25th Earth Day

Park Service,
Forest Service
Provide
"Environmental Olympics"
For North Dakota
School Children

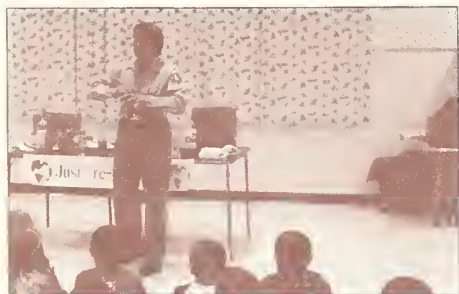
*By Phyllis Motsko, McKenzie RD,
Little Missouri National Grass-
lands, Custer National Forest,
Watford City, North Dakota*

In a joint effort to promote recycling and celebrate the 25th anniversary of Earth Day, Phyllis Motsko, McKenzie RD, on the Little Missouri National Grasslands, Custer NF, and Toni Dufficy, North Unit of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park, developed an "Environmental Olympics" program for the elementary schools of McKenzie County, North Dakota.

The "Environmental Olympics", a program of games and activities, was designed to teach the students the what, when, where, why and how of recycling. Events such as the "Cardboard Crunch" relay, the "Newspaper Stack and Tie", and a "Separation" event helped the students learn the importance of recycling.

They also learned how recycled items are re-used or transformed into new products, such as plastic pop bottles into such things as fleece garments and even jeans!

Slogan of the Olympics was "Just Re-Use It!" The 520 elementary school students learned that everyone is a winner when they work together to recycle.



Phyllis H. Motsko, McKenzie Rd, Custer NF, talks and demonstrates recycling to students at Squaw Gap School, Trotters, North Dakota, as part of the "Environmental Olympics" program.
Photo by Toni Dufficy.

Ruffed Grouse/Aspen Management Plan Beartooth Ranger District

*by M. Patrick Pierson, Forester,
Beartooth RD, Red Lodge, Montana,
Custer National Forest*

Since 1989, the Beartooth RD, Red Lodge, Montana, Custer NF, has been actively involved in sustaining aspen communities along the Beartooth Mountain Front.

Historically, fire burned through aspen communities, regenerating and diversifying aspen stands. Fire created diverse habitats for numerous game and non-game wildlife species. Eliminating fire's natural role has resulted in a monoculture of decadent aspen along the 50-mile Beartooth Mountain Front.

Aerial photography, taken during the 1930s, 1950s and 1980s, clearly indicate that 3,000 acres of aspen have been lost due to conifer encroachment and aspen stand break-up. Historically, approximately 6,000 acres of diverse aspen communities existed along the face.

Following the 1910 fire season, a public outcry for fire suppression set the stage for the loss of 50% of our original aspen communities. Much like lodgepole pine, aspen communities in the Northern Rockies are a fire-dependent species. Fire periodically removes decadent aspen overstories and prepares seed beds. Immediately following fire, aspen will "sucker" profusely, regenerating the stand, insuring this vital wildlife vegetation community is perpetuated.

The Custer National Forest Plan designated the ruffed grouse as a Management Indicator Species for aspen communities. By virtue of this designation, the Custer NF took on a management and monitoring role in aspen communities.



*Benbow Aspen Prescribed Burn,
Beartooth RD, Custer NF.*



Ruffed Grouse drumming area.
Photos by Charles A. Mark

Research throughout the U.S. clearly shows a direct correlation between the distribution of aspen communities and ruffed grouse. Grouse populations reach maximum densities in areas where three distinct aspen age and size classes are present in a relatively small geographic location. These three separate age and size classes are required in order to supply changing habitat requirements on an annual basis.

By monitoring ruffed grouse population changes over time, forest managers can effectively monitor the health and diversity present in existing aspen communities.

The Montana legislature enacted a bill creating an upland game bird habitat enhancement fund in 1989. This funding was for cost-sharing upland game bird habitat improvement projects on private and public lands. In response to this, the Beartooth RD developed a Ruffed Grouse/Aspen Management Plan. The Ruffed Grouse Society believed the plan had merit and backed this belief with \$4,000 to initiate stand treatments. The Ruffed Grouse Society and Forest Service monies were cost-shared with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks funds to launch the program. In the last five years, the Beartooth RD has averaged 40 acres of aspen regeneration per year.

As the program has gained recognition, other organizations such as the Audubon Society and the Montana Chapter of Safari Club International have contributed their efforts to the success of the program. This successful ruffed grouse/aspen program has helped establish new lines of communications and created new working relationships that will benefit ruffed grouse, other wildlife and aspen communities.

Personnel Actions

BEAVERHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BOWEY, CHARLES, wildlife biologist, cash award
EBLEN, BERTHA, senior community service employment program, Madison RD, spot award
KRUZEN, DARRELL, forester, Madison RD, cash award
PETRONI, DIANE, forester, Madison RD, cash award
SUENRAM, PERI, appeal specialist, SO, cash award

Reassignments

KOMBEREC, THOMAS, wildlife/range/watershed staff, Chevelon RD, Apache-Sitgreaves NF, reassignment, zone wildlife biologist, Wisdom/Wise River RD's

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BARRIENTEZ, JUAN, biological technician, SO, group award
CLEMMER, JEFF, biological technician, SO, group award
DEKOKER, TERESA, biological technician, Stevensville RD, group award
EHMAN, SHIRLEY, resource clerk, Sula RD, cash award
EVERS, BONNIE, office automation clerk, Darby RD, cash award
FRENCH, BLAIR, biological technician, SO, group award
GAUL, ROYLENE, legal instruments examiner, SO, cash award
GUINARD, TIM, forestry technician, Sula RD, cash award
KING, BRIAN, forestry technician, Darby RD, group award
LISTER, CHADE, forestry technician, Darby RD, group award
MORAN, SEAN, biological technician, SO, group award
RAWNSLEY, KIM, biological technician, Stevensville RD, group award
SHINN, KEVIN, biological technician, Stevensville RD, group award
STANICH, CHUCK, forestry technician, SO, quality step increase
STONE, RODNEY, cormen supervisor, Schenck Job Corps Center, temporary promotion to deputy director, Trapper Creek JCC
UNDERWOOD, STAN, forester, Sula RD, cash award
VINGL, DAVID, forestry technician, Darby RD, group award
WELDON, MICHAEL, biological technician, SO, cash award

Reassignments

POWERS, JUDY, business management assistant, Darby RD, reassignment, program assistant, SO

New Employees

DELANEY, BRUCE, social services aid, Anaconda JCC
FLOM, GERALD, social services aid, Anaconda JCC
HOPKINS, KAY, office automation clerk, Trapper Creek JCC
PRIEST, KATHLEEN, business management assistant, Darby RD
YASENAK, PATRICK, social services aid, Anaconda JCC

CLEARWATER NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BONNEY, BYRON, supervisory forestry technician, SO, temporary promotion
CHANEY, CINDY, information receptionist typing, Potlatch RD, extra effort award
COOPER, SHERI, forestry technician, Pierce RD, extra effort award
GOBER, DOUG, district ranger, Pierce RD, promotion
GOCHNOUR, DOUG, supervisory planner, SO, promotion
HEYWOOD, CLAIRENE, forestry technician, Pierce RD, extra effort award
JENSEN, DEANNA, forestry technician, Pierce RD, extra effort award
JOOSTEN, DANIEL, forestry technician, Pierce RD, extra effort award
LAMUNYAN, PEGGY, accounting technician, SO, promotion
LANE, CYNTHIA, district ranger, Lochsa RD, extra effort award, promotion
WESTON, JOHN, forester, Powell RD, extra effort award
WHITE, SUSAN, forestry technician, North Fork RD, extra effort award, promotion

Resignations

COON, CARLA, office automation clerk, SO

Reassignments/Transfers

TALBERT, DENNIS, wildlife biologist, Nez Perce NF, reassignment, Lochsa RD
THOMPSON, PAUL, civil engineering technician, Lochsa RD, reassignment, SO

CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BASHOR, CHERI, range conservationist, SO, quality step increase
BRAUN, BERNADETTE, rangeland management specialist, Sheyenne RD, cash award
BURGER, GUADALUPE, rangeland management specialist, Medora RD, cash award
GAWRYLUK, BEN, forestry technician, Medora RD, cash award
GRAY, JAMES, forester, SO, cash award
GRINDE, CYNTHIA, support services specialist, Medora RD, cash award
GRINDE, PETER, supervisory rangeland management specialist, Medora RD, time off award
LACKNER, JOHNNY, construction representative, East Zone Engineering, cash award
LAPOINT, HALCYON, archeologist, SO, quality step increase
MARK, CHARLES, forester, Beartooth RD, cash award
MCGUIRE, DONALD, supervisory civil engineer, East Zone Engineering, time off award
MOTSKO, PHYLLIS, business management clerk, McKenzie RD, cash award

NEWELL, SUSAN, realty specialist, SO, cash award
PIERSON, PATRICK, forester, Beartooth RD, cash award
REID, KIM, supervisory range conservationist, Beartooth RD, cash award
REDFERN, SAMUEL, district ranger, Medora RD, cash award
SCHULTZ, KELLI, clerk, McKenzie RD, cash award
SEXTON, MARK, forestry technician, Medora RD, cash award
SIJRSEN, PHILLIP, rangeland management specialist, Medora RD, time off award
STOTTS, BRYAN, wildlife biologist, Clearwater NF, promotion, district ranger, Sheyenne RD
SWALLING, JULIE, office automation clerk, Medora RD, time off award
SWALLING, ROY, forestry technician, Medora RD, time off award
VISCONTY, GREG, geologist, SO, cash award
WALTEE, GLENNA, administrative officer, SO, cash award

Reassignments/Transfers

GRINDE, CYNTHIA, support services specialist, Medora RD, reassignment, administrative management assistant, Payette NF
GRINDE, PETER, supervisory rangeland management specialist, Medora RD, reassignment, rangeland management specialist, Payette NF
TEMPLETON, BARBARA, budget and finance officer, reassignment, Ottawa NF
VISCONTY, GREG, geologist, SO, reassignment, Boise NF

New Employees

MAROHL, RICHARD, surveying technician, Medora RD

Resignations

EDEN, IRENE, senior community service employment program, SO

DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BIEBER, PATRICIA, resource clerk, Jefferson RD, time-off award
BILLETER, TERESA, support services specialist, Butte RD, special act award
BRAGONJE, RENAE, rangeland management specialist, Butte RD, special act award
CASEY, ED, forester, Philipsburg RD, special act award
CULLEN, JACK, forestry technician, Butte RD, special act & spot awards
DECKER, JOHN, forestry aid, Butte RD, spot award
DIEBOLD, SIRI, reality specialist, SO, spot award
DODGE, JOCELYN, forester, Butte RD, special act award
DORVALL, RENE, computer assistant, Butte RD, spot award
DUECK, SANDRA, computer assistant, Jefferson RD, time-off & spot awards
GERDES, STEVEN, fisheries biologist, Philipsburg RD, promotion
GIBSON, RONALD, range technician, Jefferson RD, spot award
GOEPFERD, HAROLD, supervisory computer specialist, SO, spot award
HAMANN, JOHN, soils scientist, SO, spot award
HENNINGSEN, RICK, forestry technician, Butte RD, spot & special act awards
HOAR, JAN, office automation clerk, Butte RD, spot awards
JOHNS, ROBERT, forestry technician, Butte RD, spot award
JOY, JOHN, forester, SO, spot award & special act awards
KIECKBUSCH, SANDRA, support services specialist, Jefferson RD, spot award
LABAHN, WENDY, law enforcement officer, SO, spot award
LUNCEFORD, CECILIA, support services specialist, Deerlodge RD, spot award
MARIANI, JINA, wildlife biologist, SO, special act award
MCNAMARA, JAMES, forester, Butte RD, spot award
MIRICH, ROBERT, forestry technician, Butte RD, spot award
ROGINSKE, RONALD, forester, SO, spot award
RUPPERT, DAVE, soils scientist, SO, special act & spot awards
SANBORN, BRIAN, fisheries biologist, SO, special act & spot awards
SCHUELKE, BRUCE, forester, Butte RD, spot award
SULLIVAN, ROBERT, hydrologist, SO, spot award & special act awards
WHEELER, THOMAS, forestry technician, Jefferson RD, spot award

FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BOSICK, MARY, purchasing agent, SO, promotion
CRAWFORD, DONNA, procurement clerk, SO, promotion, purchasing agent
EGUCHI, MARCIA, cartographic aid, SO, promotion, civil engineering technician
HOWARD, GARY, realty specialist, SO, promotion, Deerlodge NF
LEMKE, SID, supervisory forestry technician, Hungry Horse RD, converted to career appointment
VIGIL, ANDY, forester, Swan Lake RD, spot award

Reassignments

SCOTT, LAVERNE, administrative officer, Swan Lake RD, reassignment, budget & accounting analyst, SO
THOMSEN, LYLE, forestry technician, SO, permanent appointment, U.S. Customs, Eureka, MT

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

HANCOCK, TIM, supervisory forester, Forest Ecology Group, Bozeman RD, spot award
SPARKS, JIM, wildlife biologist, Big Timber RD, cash award

STORY, MARK, hydrologist, SO, spot award

Resignations

ORR, TAYLOR, forestry technician, Big Timber RD

HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BROWN, MARY, forestry technician, Helena RD, spot award
 BURNS, JERRY, law enforcement officer, Lincoln RD, spot award
 CAMPBELL, DARCEY, computer assistant, SO, spot award
 CRAWFORD, KYLE, forestry technician, Helena RD, spot award
 DANLIKER, DANIEL, forestry technician, Helena RD, spot award
 DAUENHAUER, THOMAS, lead forestry technician, Helena RD, spot award
 KILLHAM, CAL, forestry technician, Helena RD, spot award
 KUHARSKI, KATHY, purchasing agent, Rocky Mountain Station, promotion, SO
 LAKE, MATHEW, forestry technician, Helena RD, spot award
 LILLETVEDT, ERIC, forestry technician, Helena RD, spot award
 MADDEN, DAVE, office automation clerk, Helena RD, spot award
 MOULETT, PETER, law enforcement officer, Helena RD, spot award
 PAULSON, KATHLEEN, forestry technician, Helena RD, spot award
 REASINGER, RICHARD, forestry technician, Helena RD, spot award
 RUDOLF, SUZANN, office automation clerk, Helena RD, spot award
 SULLIVAN, ANN, computer assistant, SO, spot award

Reassignments/Transfers

DAVIS, CARL, heritage/wilderness manager, SO, reassignment from Siuslaw NF

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS

Awards & Promotions

BECK, JERI, forestry technician, Wallace RD, promotion
 BUSH, GERRIE, forestry technician, St Maries RD, promotion
 LOPER, RITA, procurement clerk, SO, promotion
 MEIER, NOELLE, landscape architect, SO, promotion

Resignations

DICKINSON, MARGENE, senior community service employment program, SO
 JONES, GEORGIA, senior community service employment program, St Maries RD
 JONES, HOWARD, senior community service employment program, St Maries RD

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

APPELHANS, ANNJE, hydrologic technician, Fortine RD, cash award
 BATES, EMILY, forestry aid, Rexford RD, cash award
 BILLOW, JAMES, laborer, Rexford RD, cash award
 BOHN, BRYCE, hydrologist, Rexford RD, cash award
 BRAUN, SHEILA, forester, Rexford RD, cash award
 BULLIS, DANIEL, forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 CARVEY, STEVE, laborer, Rexford RD, cash award
 CRAWFORD, DONALD, forester, Libby RD, promotion to forestry technician
 CROSS, BERNARD, laborer, Rexford RD, cash award
 DEXTER-HOMMEL, CONNIE, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, promotion
 DONALLY, KIRSTEN, forester, Rexford RD, cash award
 DUECKER, ANNE, wildlife biologist, Rexford RD, cash award
 FERRUZZI, CHRISTE, forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 FOX, CHRISTOPHER, editorial assistant, Rexford RD, cash award
 GAUGER, DELLORA, public information assistant, Fortine RD, cash awards
 GENTRY, BOBBY, forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 GENTRY, DONNA, forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 HANSON, RON, civil engineering technician, East Zone, cash award
 HEYN, ERIC, forester, Rexford RD, cash award
 JOHNSON, CLYDE, supervisory forestry technician, Idaho Panhandle NF, promotion, Cabinet RD
 JOHNSON, KIMBERLY, wildlife biologist, R4 Targhee NF, promotion, Three Rivers RD
 KERR, RICHARD, wildlife biologist, Rexford RD, cash award
 LEWICKI, JOSEPH, forester, Rexford RD, cash award
 LIEN, KIM, accounting technician, SO, promotion to financial clerk
 LIU, MICHAEL, forester, Rexford RD, cash award
 MCDOLE, RONALD, lead forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 MCMARRELL, CURTIS, laborer leader, Rexford RD, cash award
 NIX, JANET, resource clerk, Rexford RD, cash award
 PRICE, PATRICK, biological science technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 PUCKEY, JAMES, forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 RANKOSKY, DAVID, biological science technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 ROLOFF, DAVID, lead forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 ROSARIO, LYNNE, forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 SHIRA, MICHAEL, forester, Three Rivers RD, promotion to forestry technician
 SIDMORE, WANDA, forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 SULLIVAN, ELLEN, wildlife biologist, Rexford RD, cash award

SULLIVAN, KIRK, hydrologist, Rexford RD, cash award

THOMPSON, BOB, deputy district ranger, Rexford RD, promotion to district ranger

TRIEPKE, JACK, botanist, Rexford RD, cash award

WINSLOW, CAMI, administration officer, Three Rivers RD, promotion to personnel management specialist, SO

New Employees

JOHNSON, TARA, computer assistant, SO

LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

ALLISON, GARY, hydrological technician, SO, promotion
 BUTTS, WAYNE, rangeland management specialist, Musselshell RD, spot award
 FINN, JEFFREY, forestry technician, Judith RD, spot award
 HANSON, KENNETH, range technician, Judith RD, spot award
 HORN, TIMOTHY, forestry technician, Rocky Mountain RD, special act award
 KEIM, KELLY, archeology technician, Judith RD, spot award
 KNECHT, CARO, business management assistant, Judith RD, spot award
 LONG, BARBARA, forestry technician, Rocky Mountain RD, special act award
 TAYLOR, JUDITH, office automation clerk, Judith RD, spot award
 TEUBER, KURT, forester, SO, special act award
 WANDRAAS, DAVID, forester, Musselshell RD, spot award
 WOOLAN, LORI, cartographic technician, SO, special act award

REGIONAL OFFICE

Awards & Promotions

ATWOOD, TANA, office automation clerk, WRHP, spot award
 BAKER, ANN, safety & health officer, PM, cash award
 BLANCO, WILLIAM, forestry technician smkjmp, AFD, spot award
 BOHANNAN, TOM, pilot, AFD, cash award
 CARLSEN, THOMAS, supervisory forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, promotion
 CHAMBERLIN, PAUL, lead forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, promotion
 DORVILLE, DOROTHY, program assistant, MTDC, spot award
 ECHOLS, ALICE, computer scientist, MS, promotion
 ELLIOTT, ANDY, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, spot award
 ERIKSSON, MERV, supervisory structural engineer, ENG, time off award
 ERTMAN, DAVID, office automation clerk, MTDC, spot award
 FINNEMAN, COLLEEN, intelligence officer, AFD, cash award
 FROST, JOYCE, office automation clerk, MTDC, spot award
 GARBER, DAVID, forest supervisor, Gallatin NF, cash award
 GIBSON, KENNETH, entomologist, FRM, cash award
 GLENN, HEATHER, office automation clerk, PM, spot award
 GRANT, JAMES, training unit manager, AFD, cash award
 HANSEN, LLOYD, pilot, AFD, cash award
 HARVISON, WENDY, office automation clerk, PAO, spot award
 HAYES, ANDREW, lead forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, promotion & spot award
 HEIST, ED, forester, EM, spot award
 HENSON, GORDON, helicopter program, AFD, cash award
 HEWITT, JUDITH, budget & accounting analyst, AF&A, spot award
 HOPF, MICHAEL, helicopter operations specialist, AFD, cash award
 JOHNSON, JEFF, office automation clerk, W&F, spot awards
 JOHNSTON, FOREST, supervisory general engineer, ENG, cash award
 KOPKA, BRIAN, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, spot award
 KOWALSKI, GERALD, wildlife biologist, WLF, cash award
 KUEHNE, SANDRA, financial assistant, MTDC, spot award
 LAHTI, JODI, office automation clerk, ADM, spot award
 LAKE, CRYSTAL, secretary, PM, spot award
 LANDL, KIM, public affairs specialist, PAO, spot award
 LAWRENCE, CAMERON, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, spot award
 LENTZ, GRETCHEN, computer scientist, MS, promotion
 LEVESQUE, DAVE, materials handler, AFD, spot award
 LUSTGRAAF, SARA, visual information specialist, MTDC, spot award
 MACDONALD, DIANNE, personnel assistant, PM, promotion
 MASON, PHILIP, materials handler, AFD, spot award
 MONNIG, EDWARD, ecologist, FRM, cash award
 NELSON, LINDA, resource assistant, FRM, spot awards
 NESSER, JOHN, soil scientist, EAPS, cash award
 NICHOLLS, ERIN, office automation clerk, W&F, spot awards
 NIMLOS, TRACEY, purchasing agent, AF&A, spot award
 NORDBERG, ROBERT, materials handler, AFD, spot award
 NORSKOG, THELMA, administrative officer, MTDC, spot award
 PHELAN, SEAN, materials handler, AFD, spot award
 RUEDIGER, WILLIAM, wildlife biologist, WLF, cash award
 SCHUFT, CAROLE, office automation clerk, WLF, spot award
 SMITH, JOHN, lead forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, promotion
 STOCKDALE, TOM, fleet equipment management, ENG, cash award

Personnel Actions

STOWELL, FREDERICK, fisheries biologist, WLF, cash award
 THOMAS, WILLIAM, lead forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, promotion
 TOTEBUSCH, ELIZABETH, office automation clerk, WLF, spot award
 UCHIDA, JULIE, personnel assistant, PM, promotion
 VELEZ, SAMI, office automation clerk, PAO, spot award
 WABAUNSEE, KEN, supervisory forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, promotion
 WASSINGER, CHUCK, supervisor geologist, LM, cash award
 WORTHINGTON, CORT, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, spot award
 ZABEL, GARY, civil engineering technician, ENG, time off award

New Employees

BURTCH, BOYD, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD
 CLAMAN, DAVID, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD
 ELLIOT, ANDY, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD
 HAMMACK, DON, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD
 FRANCIS, JAMES, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD
 KERN, LEO, carpentry worker, AFD
 PETRILLI, ANTHONY, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD
 STEVENSON, JEFF, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD
 WALDRON, MIKE, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD
 WOLFERMAN, KEITH, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD

Reassignments/Transfers

BODENLOS, EDWARD, criminal investigator, LEI, reassignment
 BRIDGES, DENNEY, aviation safety manager, AFD, transfer
 BLOEMEKE, HARTMUT, lead forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, reassignment
 HOPF, MICHAEL, forestry technician, AFD, transfer
 KEARNS, MICHAEL, forestry technician smokejumper, AFD, transfer
 WOODS, MARK, forestry technician, AFA, reassignment

Resignations

CHRISTENSEN, ALAN, wildlife biologist, WLF

IN MEMORIAM

RALPH BARTON, 41, Bigfork, Montana, died September 3 in Kalispell, Montana. Most of his 23 years on the Flathead National Forest was on the Swan Lake Ranger District. Ralph was an enthusiastic supporter of high school athletics and a member of the Bigfork Volunteer Fire Department since 1979. Co-workers and friends are deeply saddened by the loss. The family suggests memorial contributions to the Montana Diabetes Association or the Bigfork Quick Response unit.

HOWARD R. JONES, 95, R-1 regional engineer, 1951-1959, died Sept. 21 in Columbus, North Carolina. A native of Missoula, Jones was a veteran of World War I and a graduate of the University of Washington. He worked 30 years with the Forest Service. After his retirement in 1959, Jones lived in Hendersonville and Columbus, North Carolina. He was a member of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest Service Retirees Association.

WILFRED A. (BILL) SANDERSON, 82, died Sept. 18 in Missoula. Born in Andes, MT, Sanderson graduated from Sidney High School and held a degree in civil engineering from Montana State University. He retired in 1972 after 38 years of Federal service. He began his Federal Civil Service career in 1934 and served in Glasgow, Washington, D.C. and Alaska. His last 11 years were with the Forest Service. He served in the military in European theater in World War II.

ATHOL J. SHIELDS, 89, a longtime Priest River, Idaho, area resident, died Sept. 17 at the Kootenai Medical Center in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. He worked as a sawyer in several north Idaho mills and was a log scaler for the Forest Service for more than 15 years. He retired in 1973. Shields lived in Priest River until 1990, when he moved to Coeur d'Alene.

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